



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire*

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release  
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**NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA  
("NEW ENGLAND HIDTA") TASK FORCE**

**FOURTH DEFENDANT SENTENCED IN SALEM MARIJUANA RING CASE**

**Re: United States v. James Clark**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE:** United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Drug Enforcement Administration Resident Agent in Charge Leo Ducey, and Salem Police Chief Paul Donovan announced that **James CLARK**, date of birth of October 20, 1952, of Haverhill, Massachusetts was sentenced today on federal marijuana distribution charges.

On July 24, 2003, Clark entered a guilty plea before U.S. District Judge Paul J. Barbadoro to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute marijuana.

At today's sentencing, Judge Barbadoro imposed a sentence of 24 months imprisonment followed by a 3-year period of supervised release during which Clark's behavior will be monitored by the U.S. Department of Probation.

Clark was arrested in November, 2002 along with seven others as part of a sting operation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration's Northern New England High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area ("New England HIDTA") Task Force and the Salem Police Department. A Criminal Complaint against these individuals, issued by U.S. Magistrate Judge James R. Muirhead on January 22, 2003, alleged that they participated in a conspiracy to distribute over 100 kilos of marijuana in southeastern New Hampshire and northeastern Massachusetts between January, 2000 and November, 2002.

Clark is the fourth of the eight to be sentenced. Co-defendants **Jason MESSINA**, **James SPITALERE**, and **Jose L. MADERA** of Methuen, Massachusetts, **Arthur SOBERON** of

Salem, New Hampshire, **Sean BOYD**, of Haverhill, Massachusetts and **James GLOVER, Sr.**, of Lawrence, Massachusetts have already entered guilty pleas to marijuana trafficking charges.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated, “This case demonstrates our office’s commitment to aggressively prosecuting drug traffickers, and especially those who conduct drug trafficking operations along New Hampshire’s southern tier, and over the Massachusetts border. This case is a prime example of the effectiveness of New England HIDTA, and the Northern New England HIDTA Task Force. I will continue to commit federal resources to these efforts.”

The prosecution is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante, the Lead Attorney for the District of New Hampshire in the New England Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (“New England OCDETF”).